activestate

ActiveState Python for Anaconda Users

ActiveState has been providing commercially supported Python distributions for over 20 years. Build your python automatically, from source and get a number of advantages:

ADVANTAGE #1
SOFTWARE SUPPLY CHAIN FOCUSED

Anaconda seems to continually charge more from year to year while providing no new features or functionality. That's because their main business is their Data Science platform, not Python. By comparison, ActiveState is squarely focused on creating an open source platform that can make you not only more productive with Python, but also more secure.

ADVANTAGE #2
SUPPORT FOR ANY PYTHON PACKAGEAT NO EXTRA COST

Add any package to your Python environment from our extensive catalog, which contains almost the entirety of PyPI. Need to add a package that's not covered in the base Anaconda catalog? No problem, and no extra charge.

ADVANTAGE #3
SECURE PYTHON PACKAGES BUILT AUTOMATICALLY

Rather than manually building complex data science packages using Conda Forge, the ActiveState Platform will automatically build them and all their dependencies (including linked C, Rust and Fortran libraries) in a reproducible manner while resolving any conflicts that arise. It will then package them for Windows, Mac and Linux for easy installation. There's no need to create and maintain your own build environments.

ADVANTAGE #4
SUPPORT FOR ANY NUMBEROF PYTHON DISTROS

ActiveState provides free access to an extensive library of prebuilt Python packages for creating everything from web applications to AI-driven bots to scripts, and everything in between. Or you can use the ActiveState Platform to build any number of secure Python environments from source code tailored to each of your projects – it's all included in your subscription.

ADVANTAGE #5
RESTORABLE PYTHON ENVIRONMENTS

If you've ever had to reinstall a corrupted environment or recreate an older build, you know how frustrating it can be. The ActiveState Platform saves a git-like snapshot of every Python environment you build/modify (including all dependencies, transitive dependencies and OS-specific binaries), so you can roll back to a previously working version at any time with ease.

ADVANTAGE #6
PYTHON PROVENANCE

ActiveState provides at no extra cost both Software Bill

of Materials (SBOMs) and software attestations, which can be used to prove that your Python dependencies were not only sourced securely, but built securely as well, using a SLSA Build Level 3-compliant build system.

ADVANTAGE #7
PYTHON RUNTIME & ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT IN ONE

Configure and update your Python runtimes on the ActiveState Platform, and then share them with a single command, ensuring everyone always has an up-to-date runtime environment. Runtimes are automatically installed locally in virtual environments, isolating dependencies and eliminating conflicts so developers can more easily manage multiple projects without corrupting their system installation.

ADVANTAGE #8
OBSERVABILITY FOR ALL YOUR PYTHON DEPENDENCIES

ActiveState provides at no extra cost both Software Bill

Track who is using which Python packages in which projects, deployed to which environment(s). A roll-up view gives you visibility into Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs) across your extended enterprise, facilitating prioritization.

	ActiveState	Anaconda
Catalog	All Python dependencies found on PyPI	Limited + additional fee for non-standard dependencies
Catalog Updates	Continuous	Infrequent
Storage & CPU Costs	Included	Additional fee
SBOMs	Included	Additional fee
Provenance	Software attestations included	Not provided
Package Manager	State Tool	Conda
Package Builds	Automated via a SLSA Build Level 3 hardened build service	Manually via Conda Forge
Virtual Environments	Automatically provisioned	Manually provisioned
Dependency Insight	Enterprise-wide roll-up view by user, project, CVE, etc	Per project view

In other words, ActiveState Python does everything Anaconda Python does, and more. Similar to Conda, ActiveState's State Tool Command Line Interface (CLI) provides you with a versatile, pip-like package manager with which to manage not only your Python packages, but your environments, as well. You can even issue pip commands, if you prefer, simplifying adoption.

Contact us to see how easy it is to replace Anaconda with ActiveState Python